TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1879.

The Pilot Grove Murder

DETAILS OF THE CRIME.

The Arrest of John I. West.

His Confession of the Crime.

Affecting Prison Scene.

An Interview With His Wife

The Story of His Life Written by Himself.

History of the Murders Committed in Cooper.



(JOHN I. WEST.) On Friday afternoon, Oct. 5th, 1878. two men walked into Pilot Grove, Cooper County, on foot, coming from the direction of Sedalia, on the railroad track. One was a small man, respectably dressed, carrying a large and peculiarly marked cane. The other was a very tall man, rather shabbily attired.

man asked for A GLASS OF BEER They were told by the merchant that he had nothing but bottled beer, and that they would have to buy a bottle as he could not sell them a glass. The about one hundred and forty pounds, smaller man replied that they only Dark complexion; dark hair, cut wanted two glasses, and they left the short; rather heavy black moustache, store. From there they went to a

drug store and THE SMALL MAN asked Mr. Harris for something, that right fore finger below the knuckle; he now forgets, but did not have. After this the two men departed-

country in a northwesterly direction. bosom, dark gray casimere pants, The next that is heard of them that striped casimere vest, and white cotevening, they went to a farm house, about one and a quarter miles from Pilot Grove, and asked for a drink of

water. Here, too, they inquired THE ROAD TO BOONVILLE They were told that they had passed the cabin. In the field was found a they parleyed a few moments, and one ing twenty-two inches in the waist, and thirty-five and three fourth inches of them pointing westwardly, they con- in the leg. They were covered with tinued on their original course instead blood. of going back to the Boonville road. About sun rise the murderer was About a mile and a half from this seen crossing the farm of Mr. William point they went into an orchard of a Gentry, not far from the scene of the Mr. Kaley and gathered some apples. Mrs. Kaley saw them, but as her husband was absent she was afraid to go near them to order them away. After filling their pockets with apples they

A SMALL DESERTED CABIN built of logs. The cabin is in a cornfield about one hundred feet from the road, and owned by Cornelius Canine. man's coat and hat, he may be now You could have laid your finger in the gap in his face. It made the top part of the face lower down. It had a good roof, a fire-place, etc., sion, probably, the large wide ring and formed a very comfortable place above referred to: to camp for the night, which they re-solved to do. They put some straw on the floor, tore out the dry chinking

in the fireplace. The next morning (Saturday)

MR. MERIDETH.

who rents the land upon which the cabin stands, sent his two sons to gether some corn, from the field around the cabin, to feed his stock on Sunday. The young men drove down there and entered the gate in front of the cabin, between 10 and 11 o'clock. One of them, wishing to light his pipe, entered the cabin. As he came in he might before. There was straw on the floor and embers in the fire-place. Looking further, he saw a vest hanging up behind the door. Continuing his investigations he observed that the straw upon the floor was covered with the same to the didn't even know where it was; but afterwards acknowledged that he had been in Pilot Grove deged that he had been in Pilot Grove deged that he had been in Pilot Grove some time before.

OMINOUS CIRCUMSTANCES.

He had, when arrested, a wide silver ring. It will be remembered that a ring had been stolen from the murder dered man's little finger. It must have been a wide ring and worn a long time, as the indention on the finger of the trail.

Q.—Is that the man to the hest of your belief?

(Objected to by defendant's counsel). Judge Miller—State what you believe.

Witness—I do believe he was there.

OMINOUS CIRCUMSTANCES.

He had, when arrested, a wide silver ring. It will be remembered that a ring had been stolen from the murder of the trail of the best of your belief?

(Objected to by defendant's counsel).

Mr. Johnson—Will you swear this is the man to the best of your belief?

(Objected to by defendant's counsel).

Mr. Johnson—Will you swear this the best of your belief?

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Mr. Johnson—Will you swear this to be the was the object of the best of your belief?

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(Objected to by defendant's counsel.

Mr. Johnson—Will you swear this the best of your belief?

(Objected to by defendant's counsel.

Mr. Johnson—Will you swear this the be straw upon the floor was covered with blood, and also that straw was stick-bad a fine gold watch, but kept on reiks of the floor. The ends of the

A GHASTLY AND BLOODY CORPSE!

er, had crowded it with some force, the prisoner.

and cramped the knees. morning.

THE WOUNDS

that caused the man's death were upon his forehead, which had evidently been crushed with some heavy, jagged object. One deep gash reached straight across the man's forehead, iust above the eyes; another deep gash was farther up on the left side o the forehead-either of these wounds was sufficient to produce instant death.

A careful search of the premises was then made, which resulted in finding the instrument with which the murder was committed, carefully hidden in the fire-place and covered up with ashes. It was

A LARGE STONE, was made but they could not be found. In an outhouse was found the bloody shirt of the murderer, which had evidently been hurriedly torn off. It

northerly direction.

before the day previous, and no one Speeler, J. Henderson and R. W. could recognize the corpse. Upon his Whitlow.

A ROUND GOLD BADGE

or emblem, a little larger than a silver quarter of a dollar, and about twice as thick. Upon its face was a raised representation of a bunch of grapes, a grape leaf, and a spiral stem. There was no date or inscription upon it of any kind. It was tested and pronounced pure gold. The emblem was found pinned underneath the right lapel of the man's vest, and had evidently escaped the eve of the mur-

was also found.

They went into a store and the small murderer had torn off this ring after death, and must have been some time

about it, as it fitted tight. THE MURDERED MAN was apparently about twenty-five or twenty-eight years of age, and five teet six inches high. He would weigh with small imperial; beard about one week old; eyes supposed to be dark blue; full sett of large irregular teeth; vaccination mark on left arm: scar on wide mark on little finger of right hand; small-pox marks on face, neck and body. He had on a new white going from Pilot Grove out into the knit undershirt, white shirt, with linen

ton socks.

THE MURDERER'S CLOTHES. After committing the terrible deed the murderer changed his clothes, leaving behind him a striped cottonade vest hanging up behind the door of the road that branches off to Boon- white shirt with linen bosom, and a ville. After they reached the gate pair of gray cottonade pants, measur-

From two ladies who live at the house where the men stopped for drink of water, the reporter got a very good description of the murderer, continued their course on the Briant's which is as follows: He is full, if not bottom road, until, at a distance of a over, six feet in height; red or florid mile from Kaley's orchard, they came complexion; light hair cut short; dressed in a gray suit and wore a smooth silk railroad cap the day previous to the murder. The beel of one

About a week afterwards Capt. from between the logs, and built a fire his Deputy, L. M. Williams, arrested Smith, Sheriff of Cooper county, and the prisoner, John I. West, at the coal mines on Friday evening, on suspicion of being the murderer. When he was arrested West asked the first thing :

"Are you going to arrest me for that Pilot Grove murder?" He then declared that he never was in Pilot Grove-that he didn't even know there and entered the gate in front of where it was; but afterwards acknowl-

peating that he had only ninety cents

At the preliminary examination at brother. The body was still limp and cluding the ladies at whose house they jury-room, returning in a few minutes quickly re installed. warm, which showed that the murder stopped to get a drink of water, as the with the weary, jaded and solemn must have been committed that man who was traveling with the mur- looking twelve. The foreman passed dered man the evening before.

JOHN L. WEST

is young man, about twenty-four years clerk unfolded the paper and read in a of age, about five feet six inches in clear, distinct voice: "We, the jury, height, and compactly built, When find the defendant guilty of murder in arrested he wore his dark hair cut the first degree, in manner and form close, and his face, which was of red or as charged in the indictment." florid complexion, was destitute of jury were polled, each in his turn an-beard—a faint moustache only being swering: "This is my verdict." As by observable on his upper lip. His common impulse every eye sought the speech is slow and measured, and his prisoner's countenance, calm and imlanguage shows that he has but a limit- movable as a rock, his features beed education.

He wore a dark coat and vest-a emotion which must have filled his well work and rather ragged pair of breast. The jury were discharged, the pants ending inside of his bootlegs, into prisoner remanded to jail, the crowd which they were stuffed. On his head vacated the room, and thirty minutes he wore a black cap of the railroad later all was quiet, where, for nearly pattern. At first glauce his features a week past, had reigned the most in-Trial. Conviction and Sentence. with sharp uneven edges, covered with would be said to indicate but little tense interest and excitement. blood. It weighed 38 pounds. Be- more than ignorance and an ordinary wond this and three apples upon a shelf disposition, but during an interview over the fire-place, nothing was found. with a Bazoo reporter upon one or ence to his expression.

Wests Trial

having rained the night before, his Began in the Circuit Court, in Boon- March 15 a supersedeas was granted tracks were found out side the cabin, ville, on January, 29th, 1879, before staying his execution till Friday, May and traced in the road leading off in a Judge Geo. W. Miller. The jury em- 16, and setting the third Monday in paneled, consisting of the following April for a hearing of the case. The An inquest was held and a verdict gentlemen: J. L. O'Brien, W. C. following is a verbatim copy of the rendered in accordance with the above Scott, J. W. Wooldridge, -- Wait, Neither of the men had been seen David Smith Jr., Benj. Goodwin, Otto

person the only clue that may possibly Mr. James Johnson appeared for lead to his identity was the State, and Messrs. Cosgrove and Pendleton for the defendant. large audience was in attendance, and much interest was manifested in the

THE TESTI SONY. was also found,

A BROKEN SILVER RISG,
with a round gold sett upon the top. The set had been made of a gold dollar, and the fing had been worn for many years, as the face of the set had been worn quite smooth, although the contour of the head on the dollar could plainly be perceived. The pantalon pockets had been rifled, for they were found turned inside out.

On his little finger there was a deep indentation of where he had worn a ring for many years. The ring must have been a very wide one, as the mark indicated. It was evident the murderer had torn off this ring after the first of the set of the set of the reach of the house, it was the straw itying on the shell; also a rock which marks and the reaches of the sort of the sort of the set of the set had been a very wide one, as the mark indicated. It was evident the murderer had torn off this ring after the sort of the sech and the sort of the sort of the sech and the sech and the interview places there: I discovered tracks about the door; there are two doors, one on the north the other on the south side. There was no window to the house. I did not pursue the tracks.

John Preston testifies—I live in Lamine township; was in Pilot Grove on the 4th of October; I was sinking a cistern for Mr. Gentry; I saw the body of the dead man at Pilot Grove about 9 or 10 o'clock Sunday morning; I did not recognize the body immediately as one I had ever seen before but did afterwards. I went up to the Grove out of cursosity to see if I could recognize the body; the disfigurement of it startled me and I did not recognize it; I rode with them with the corpse where they were going to dress it; I kept looking at it and still failed to recognize it. The shoulders seemed to assume the rounded shape like the man I had seen, then I thought I began to recognize it; but it was not self-satisfaction to me, and I was not positive at the time, but I thought if I could fix his nose like it had been then I could dotermine; under the circumstances I could not swear positive; I had seen him on Thurston's platform about 4 or 5 o'clock; I was waiting for the train; there was a younger man with him at the time; the prisoner there resembles the other man; they were there only about five minutes; the dead man had on a sort of black frock coat at the time, annaremity about a size too small for him from the were there only about five minutes; the dead man had on a sort of black frock coat at the time, apparently about a size too small for him from the way it was wrinkled—drawn up on the shoulders; pants in his boots, dark pants; I think light hat, am not certain about that; the man had on snuff-colored coat; black, slick cap; coat, if anything, too large; extra long lapels or skirts, overalls, brown, looked like they had been worn for sometime; I think he had on stogy boots, travel-worn and red, there was no blacking on them; checkered hickory cane; a little bundle under his arm; I think it was clothing; clean shaved; defendant was the younger of the two and had a rosy face; I conversed with the prisoner some little; the man that was killed passed along the platform where I was standing and I got a glimpse of his face as he stood there only a moment looking behind the house; came back to where I was and asked me if there was any saloon in the town; about this time

something for him there, towards curing him of the headache. They both went over the re. I did not see them any more until after the arrest.

Mr. Hartman testifies—I lived in Pilot Grove township in October last; I saw the body of the murdered man on the 5th of October; it was lying in an old cabin on Mr. Canine's farm; I suppose it was about I o'clock; I saw it the next day again; I saw the murdered man the day before, at the Grove, between 10 and 12 o'clock. The first place that I saw him there was in the store of Mr. Harris; the prisoner was with him; they went over to the drug store, then back to Harris' again. I had no conversation; I did not see defendant for two or three weeks.

Cross examination—That was the first time I ever saw them; from Harris' store they crossed above or below the depot; I am sure they crossed above or below the depot; I am sure they crossed above or below the depot; I am sure they crossed

the railroad; I don't know whether they crossed above or below the depot; I am sure they crossed the track; they remained there about fifteen minutes; they went northeast and crossed the railroad track; when they passed they were within about fifty yards of me; I met them near the depot; I swear that defendant is one of the men I saw there; they did not stop to talk to me; I think the murdered man had on dark coat, hat and gray pants; I am sure his hat was black.

Mr. Cosgrove—If you did not notice him closely how did you know him when you saw him the next day by his hair?

The coat seemed light and was large enough. Defendant had a bundle; I did not notice his coat; it was not a white one. I could not say what the color of his vest was; he was carrying something; I think he had a satchel under his arm (prisoner); I could not tell whether he was taller; dark coat and black hat.

Fenton Mitzel sworn—I live close to Pilot Grove,

Fenton Mitzel sworn—I live close to Pilot Grove, northeast. I lived there in October last, saw the body of the murdered man about the fifth or sixth of October; it was on Sunday, at Pilot Grove; I thought I recognized him. I saw him and a younger man about one-fourth of a mile northwest on the road to Sulphur Springs about the 4th of October about 4 o'clock on Friday, sitting on a log eating, I think I saw the man afterwards; I think that was the man.

Cross examination—Mr. Cosgrove.—Did you have any conversation with him. have any conversation with him.

Ans.—I did not speak to them; I saw them sitting there as I went along; I could not say which was the tallest; one had on a cap, the other a hat; would not swear that this man was one of them Mr. Johnson—Will you swear this is the man to

Q.—Is that the man? (pointing to the prisoner) Ans.—Yes sir.

planks were loose, and upon raising The prisoner had a striped sack of day, February, 3. They were locked bedticking, which contained a coat, up in charge of the sheriff. On Mon-Culloch received a communication coat and hat and boots, so I put them Mrs. W.—No; my father and The body, which was without hat, coat or boots, was lying upon its breast, with its face turned upon its right side.

The space between the ground and the floor is about eight inches, and order.

The man who was with the man coming in the court room and address the judge in low tones. The floor is about eight inches, and order.

The man who was with the man coming in the court room and address the judge in low tones. The judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and when the judge at once ordered the aberiff to find the door, and the door, an

to get the body into this, the murder- ed man had a black silk cap. So had short time the sheriff and his deputy dispatch him with the pump handle rather it had been me for I didn't study appeared with the prisoner, the coun- and make his escape with his keys. about anything, but if I told it I would tenance of the latter entirely calm and The Sheriff, assisted by the City Marget killed and I was atraid of any one so Young Merideth was horror struck Pilot Grove, West was thoroughly inexpressive. Upon the order of the shal, went into the jail and found West went to work and had it in my head to and ran to the door and called to his identified by a number of persons, in- court the sheriff at once repaired to the outside of his cell, into which he was never tramp, and work the last days a slip of paper to the judge, the latter passed it to the clerk, amidst a most

solemn and oppressive stillness. The frustrate his dearest hopes. The

traved no token of the tamultuous Sentenced to Death.

On Saturday a motion for a new

A search of the field and surroundings two occasions there was a flash of the trial was argued by Mr. Cosgrove, but for the dead man's hat, coat and boots eye that gave a very sinister appear- it was overruled by Judge Miller, and West was sentenced to be hung on March 28th.

The case was taken to the Supreme Court upon writ of error, and on orders of the courts and

> THE DEATH WARRANT. COOPER COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT.

ate of Missouri) Marder in first degree John I. West.

Now at this day comes as well the prosecution attorney, who prosecutes for and on behalf of a State, as the defendant in his own proper persons well as by his attorney, and the said part now here file affidavits in support of and again the motion heretofore filed by the defendant for

John I. West.

and ted, there was no blacking on them; checkered hickory cane; a little bundle under his arm; I think it was clothing; clean shawed; defendant was the younger of the two and had a rosy face; I conversed with the prisoner some little; the man that was killed passed along the platform where I was standing and I got a glimpse of his face as he stond there only a moment looking behind the house; came back to where I was and asked me if there was any saloon in the town; about this time the other came straggling slowly as it he were tired. I told this young fellow there was no saloon in town that I knew of. Finally he told me they were travel-worn and tired, and if he could get; something to drink it would help him. After talking about the chances of getting work. I told him there was a drug store close by; they might do something for him there, towards curing him of the headache. They both went over the re. I did not see them any more until after the arrest.

Now at this day come the parties aforesaid, by the said Cooper circuit court for and clocked the parties aforesaid, by the said Cooper counting the premises, do consider and adjudge that the judgment aforesaid, by the said Gooper circuit court of the said defendant in error its suffirmed, and stand in full force and effect, and it is further considered and adjudged by the court, that said defendant in error tecover against the said planntiff in error tecov

nexed and made part of this warrant; and whereas, the supreme court of Missouri, at its October term, 1878, and on the 18th day of March, 1879, made an order staying the execution of the sectence and judgment aforesaid from the said 8th day of March until the 16th day of May, 1879, a copy of which order is filed in my office, and a copy of the same is hereto attached; and whereas, afterwards, the said supreme court did at its April term, 1879, affirm the said judgment and sentence of said circuit court, and issue its mandate that the sheriff of Cooper county, Missouri, proceed to execute said sentence on the 16th day of May, 1879; a copy of which said mandate is hereto attached and made part hereof.

Given under my hand, as clerk of said circuit court, with the seal of our said court hereto affixed, this 7th day of May, 1879. H. A. HUTCHINGON, Clerk.

Attempt to Escape.

On Tuesday, May 6, it was discovered that West had again cut the bars of the cage, and that everything was in readiness for another attempt, but again it was discovered just in time to

It appears the nephew of the Sheriff had entered the jail, and stood talking to West outside the cage, in front of a little iron door through which the food of the prisoners is passed. As the boy was engaged in conversation he rested his hands on the bars above the door, and felt them give to his pressure. A about my case, that I have told a lie little closer examination disclosed the in this, and as I believe that, I won't fact that West had been up to his old ask you to believe me. In the first tricks, and the Sheriff was informed of place, I left home with Gus Wood. the fact. A critical inspection of the and as I don't think it right to say cage was made, and it was found that anything about Gus. I wont. When I he had cut the bolts of one of the bars left home I had no more idea of doing above the door, so that it could be anything that was wrong in the least, shoved up, leaving a space, with a little but it would come to me often that if bending of the bars on each side, large I would steal a horse and get away enough for a man to pass through.

West's First Confession Was made on Thursday, May 1, and

published in the Boonville Advertiser, as follows:

truth is better than a lie. When I left home I left with Gus Wood, the day the sun was in eclipse. Both of us went to Green Ridge; then took the train for Texas. We went as far as Parsons, Kansas; There we left the M. K. & T. R. R. and went on the L. L. & G. R. R.-went to Kanwent to the C. & A. R. R. to work : after eight days I left there and started for Illinois where my father lived.

my own name and I had no right to

change it and never will so long as

life lasts. We passed on through some

could make a raise easy and not have

to work for it, and I wanted to know

from him, I told him Frank, you

can do it, if you want to. I was sit-

didn't care for that-he told me that

him arrested. At that he said he I would not. All my affection for him

ting down and Frank was laying

the motion heretofore filed by the defendant for a new trial in the cause, which said motion for a new trial in the cause, which said motion for a new trial was filed on the 6th day of February, lis79, and said motion coming on to be heard, and all and singular the premises being seen, and by the court here fully understood, the same is now here by the court overruled, and a new trial refused the said defendant.

Whereupon it is forthwih deman'ed of the defendant if he hath or knoweth anything to say why judgment and sentence should not be pronounced against him, and the court ought not to proceed to judgment against him; who nothing further saith, unless as he before hath said. It is therefore coasidered by the court that a judgment in accordance with the verdict of the jury, heretofore entered at the present term of this court, to-fore entered at the present term of this court to the form of this think it was to late. Young th ing to Illinois himself and I was defer.

In the vest pocket of the deceased was also found,

In the vest pocket of the deceased was also found,

In the vest pocket of the deceased was between beand about any hour afterwards; in the first degree, be and the same is hereby in the same is hereby in the first degree, be and the same is hereby

Error to Cooper Circuit Court. Plaintiff in error. Now at this day comes the said plaintiff in error by his attorney, John Cosgrove, and on his mo-tion it is ordered by the court that the execution

HENRY W. EWING, Clk. Sup. Ct. By Chas. G. Genther, D. C. State of Missouri D. fendant in error.

Vs.

John I. West.

D. fendant in error.

Plaintiff in error.

Whereas, at the January term, 1879, of the circuit court of Cooper county, Missouri, and on the 3d day of February, 1879, in the case of the State of Missouri against John West, deferdant, indicted for murder in the first degree, a verdict of Guilty in manner and form as in the indictment charged, was rendered against said defendant, in accordance with which verdict said circuit court did, at said term, on the 8th day of February, 1879, pronounce and enter of record its judgment and sentence, that the said defendant, John West, be hanged by the neck until dead, on the 28th day of Men 2015, 2015. John West, be hanged by the neck until dead, on the 28th day of March, 1879, at a place to be designated by the sheriff, in said county, of which said judgment and sentence a certified copy is he;e;o an-nexed and made part of this warrant; and whereas, the supreme court of Missouri.

Now, therefore, these presents are to command you, that in accordance with said judgment and sentence of said circuit court, with the said mandate of the said supreme court, you, the said sherift, take the said defendant, John West, from the place of his confinement, on the said 16th day of May, 1879, to a place by you selected, within said county, and then and there hang him, the said defendant, by the neck until he is dead. And you are further commanded to make return of this writ to our said circuit court.

On Saturday, March 15, Sheriff Me would find him and know him by his R.—Are your parents living?

of my life. Was I right, or not? for he wanted to kill me because I would not help kill some one in Boonville and we had a split, and he started up to me before I stopped him.

But if it had been me, it would be JOHN I. WEST.

ANOTHER CONFESSION. The following confession he handed o a Bazoo reporter on May 8:

LADIES AND GETTLEMEN: The last opfession of West, and I shall be unable to tell, and the readers of this pa per may say that this is untrue, and many may say because I have told lies with it and sell it, I would have mon ev enough to start me peddling, but before I would do it I would feel as it I was doing wrong, and then I would top and think that I would go to work. will give to all young men a warn-I swear to the truth and nothing ing, if they will take it. Young but the truth: Sir Mr. --- The man, for God's sake and your own sake take it. Never take my step in the way of living. I have torged notes of from \$3.75 to \$15.50only three notes in all. I commenced by counterfeiting tickets for a dance. the tickets only had O. K. which was (Knobnoster) eight miles west of very much money. The amount is Lamonte; there he left me, then I only about \$35 is about all I ever stole

in large letters, and then I got to doing things larger, but I never stole and about \$27 of that was by forged notes, then I have stolen other things that was not mine and I should not have done it, but I never seen it till me, but it is a sad moral fact that all I stated was true but that of the killing of that man. He did not wake when I killed him. What did I do it for? It was just meanness and the devil that was in me. He was asleep when I killed worked for just now. We then came him. Coming to Bonville was true. was parted until near noon, when I In this way Frank and I was both going to Boonville. Frank was going started out of town. When I came to kill some one and I was going to out about a mile, he was sitting under the shade of a bush in a fence corner. killed him. We was up and talking I asked him his name which he would not tell me for some time, and then he said his name was Frank, and his he told me it was, and any other I never heard in regard to his name. The above is the facts of the case

me if I ever changed mine. I told don't look as if it is true, but it is, and him I never did, which is a fact for I if I knew any other I would tell it,

never did change my name, for it was but I don't. JOHN I. WEST. Mrs. West Interviewed. towns and the town beyond Pilot On Thursday night Mrs. West ar-Grove-he wanted to rob a store there rived in Sedalia, from Lamonte, and and I wouldn't do it, and in fact we put up at the Garrison House. Friday pretty near parted there. We came May 9, a Bazoo reporter was die to Pilot Grove, he had me do the patched to interview her, and found talking for he could not look at a man. Mrs. West in the ladies' room alone. eirent He didn't say he couldn't look at a She is quite voung, has rather a pleasman, but I could see it. He got me ing countenance, and was plainly. to go and get some whiskey, and I though neatly dressed. She expressed didn't want to get it. I got a bottle a perfect willingness to answer ques

of whiskey and I and Frank went on tions, and first one was: from there and when we went on from "How long have you known West?" there we stopped in a log house and Mrs. W.—I have known him nearly got from a stable some hay and straw all my life. His folks and mine were to make a bed to sleep on. I took neighbors, and we lived three miles about three drams out of the bottle from Warsaw, in Benton county. R -How long since you were mar-

more, and he kept on until I got drunk; ried? Mrs. W .- Two years ago last April. did, for I wasn't used to drink very But for four or five years previous to marrying I had not seen bim, as he had moved to Illinois.

R.-What did he do for a livelihood?

Mrs. W.-He worked as a hired Yes-then Frank studied for some man on a farm. R.-How long did you live in Benin Boonville? I told him I had, and ton county after you were married? about the town. We went to sleep at Mrs. R. Ouly three or four days, last and about one o'clock he woke up and then we went to Dresden, where and made a fire. When I woke he West worked on Wilson's farm for a had a good fire. We had a smoke— couple of months. After that we went Frank had a large stick what he used to Lamonte. where West kept an ice-

for a walking stick. He thought we cream saloon. R. - When did he leave you? Mrs. W.-He left on the 30th of

how we could get it. Well if you go last July. R-Did he have any quarrel with PIANO TUNER to Boonville with me to-morrow, we will look around there and see where you or any cause to leave! Mrs. W.-No; for about two weeks some one lives that has some signs of a man that has a good deal of money. before he left he was very quarrelsome, particular. He has had years of experiences where he lived, I said, he would not give it to us. Well, said Frank, we give it to us. Well, said to us any give it to us. Well, said to us any give it to us any give it to will break his neck and take the money until he was arrested for murder.

R.—Was he industrious? Mrs. W.-Just tolerable. R.—Where is your child? Well, John, Frank said, you can sofa in the other end of the room. watch for me and I will do it. No I The reporter looked in the direct won't watch for you, you would kill tion indicated, and saw a tiny but prethim and then take his money and ty face peeping out from a bundle of leave his children and his wife to suf- shawls, with its eyes wide open, and fer for you—that won't pay—then apparently much interested in its sur-Frank told me that I shouldn't go with roundings.

him any farther. I told him that I R - How old is it? Mrs. W .- It was born on the 15th I shouldn't tell any body and if I had of January. It's a boy. said no I would have been all right, R.-Mrs. West, if the Governor but I told him I would tell it. He should pardon West to-day, and he told me that if I told it I never would could step out a free man, would you tell any body else. I told him that if live with him? he went to Boonville I would have Mrs. W. [very decidedly]-No. sir

would see, and made an attempt to get is dead. up at the same time; at this time I R.-Do you believe him guilty was standing up and grabbed the rock that was brought in to keep the door shut and threw it at him and hit him West guilty of murder. in the forehead just above the eyes; R.-What is the character of when I started to throw at him he people? dodged his head down on the floor. I didn't know anything about law, so I left frightened, for I thought if I told it they would hang me. I didn't know has two brothers and one sister. One Mrs. W.—Tolerably good. The old

what to do and to get away was all of his brothers came to see me about

floor is about eight inches, and order The man who was with the murder- bring the prisoner into court. In a Sheriff came in to feed the prisoners, with a board. After I did it I would Hope Bitters diluted with cool water.

Color or manufacture of the last of the la

these distressing synaptoms has Chappeared under these distressing synaptoms has Chappeared under the use of not quite three bottles of flarrons's Labstoat Curas. By hearing is fully removad. I have no attimated synaptoms, so cough, so dropsings in the threet, so headaste, and in every way better than I have been for years. I could feel the effects of the Crass on my appetite, on my hidneys, and, in fact, every part of my system. What has been done in my case is wholly the effect of the Easteal Cura. Very respectfully.

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